



KCS RAIL CROSSINGS BATON ROUGE OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING



KCS RAIL CROSSINGS BATON ROUGE FROM GAYOSA STREET TO LOUISE STREET STATE PROJECT NO. H.012449 FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H012449 EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LOUISIANA

Carver Branch Library
720 Terrace Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
November 6, 2017
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Thank you for attending this Open House Public Meeting for the proposed KCS Rail Crossings Baton Rouge project. In this handout you will find information about the proposed project including a preliminary project description, a location map, and a description of proposed work at each crossing location. Also included is a comment form.

Project team members are stationed throughout the room to discuss the project and answer your questions. These individuals are easily identified by their name tags. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with team members. **There will be no formal presentation.**

As you enter the room, you will see four stations:

Station 1: Sign-in Table

At this station, there are sign-in sheets for General Public, Elected and Other Officials, Agency Personnel, and News Media. Please sign in on the appropriate sheet.

Station 2: Exhibits

This station will consist of aerial maps that illustrate the location of, and proposed work at each of the crossings. The exhibits display the entire proposed project in large layouts.

Station 3: Continuous PowerPoint Presentation

This short presentation will provide an overview of the proposed KCS Rail Crossings Baton Rouge project. The presentation lasts approximately 10 minutes and will re-start automatically after a one-minute intermission. **The PowerPoint presentation and the exhibits shown tonight will be available on the DOTD website at**

http://wwwapps.dotd.la.gov/administration/public_info/projects/ in the project folder.

Station 4: Comment Table

At this station, comments can be made orally or in writing. A tape recorder is available at this table for oral comments. The last page of this handout is a comment form that you may use. Comments can be turned in during this meeting or mailed to the address on the back of the form. Additional comment forms are also available to be taken with you. **Please note that comments mailed after this meeting must be postmarked no later than November 17, 2017 to be included as part of the meeting transcript.**

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to provide input on the proposed KCS Rail Crossings project. Thank you for attending this meeting and for providing input.

PRELIMINARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Rail Administration (FRA) are proposing a project that includes the maintenance and rehabilitation of ten (10) and closure of six (6) railroad crossings along the Kansas City Southern (KCS) railroad in the City of Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish. Proposed activities for each of the crossings are described in the table below.

The crossings that are proposed to be closed will be complete closures. The sidewalks at these crossings would be removed; however, pedestrian crossings would be created at several of the other crossings, usually where sidewalks come up to the railroad right-of-way and end. Detours will be required for the maintenance and rehabilitation during the in-roadway crossing work. The detours will be coordinated with the City of Baton Rouge at the time of construction. Detours will not be required for the signal work.

The maintenance and rehabilitation work will be completed within existing KCS, City of Baton Rouge, or LADOTD right-of-ways. Additional right-of-way may be required for street connectivity on the east end of Orange Street to connect Orange Street with Matilda Street. Connecting roads within KCS right of way are proposed to link Smith Street, Orange Street, and Apple Street, paralleling the west side of the railroad tracks. No relocations are anticipated. No impacts to wetlands are anticipated. It is anticipated that the project will be processed as a Categorical Exclusion.

Crossing	Preliminary Description of Proposed Work
Gayosa Street Crossing	Close roadway crossing railroad. Remove 32 foot timber railroad crossing surface. Work with city to ensure connectivity remains. Remove asphalt road approaches. Reslope ditch line to drain, and reseed grass on affected areas. Install metal guard rail with two retro-reflective object and end of road markers for each travel lane.
North Street Crossing	Install two crossing gates/arms in front of existing signal cantilevers. Upgrade existing lights to LEDs. Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches.
Main Street Crossing	Install two crossing gates/arms in front of existing signal cantilevers. Install signal mast with flashers and crossing gates on N. 15th Street on northwest corner of intersection with Main Street. Upgrade existing lights to LEDs. Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches.
Laurel Street Crossing	Construct two (2) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete medians on both roadway approaches. Paint curbs with retro-reflective paint. Install four delineators one on each end of the median curbs. Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and advance warning signs. Install two crossing gates/arms on existing signals and upgrade existing lights to LEDs. Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches.
Florida Boulevard Crossing	Rehabilitate 72 foot timber crossing surface, replace ties under surface, and five (5) additional ties on each side of timber surface. Construct one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 70 foot concrete median on east side roadway approach and one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on west side roadway approach. Paint curbs with retro-reflective paint. Install four delineators one on each end of the median curbs. Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and

	advance warning signs. Install two crossing gates/arms on existing signals and upgrade existing lights to LEDs.
Convention Street Crossing	Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches. Construct one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on east side roadway approach and one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 100 foot concrete median on west side roadway approach. Paint curbs with retro-reflective paint. Install four delineators one on each end of the median curbs. Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and advance warning signs. Install two crossing gates/arms on existing signals and upgrade existing lights to LED's. Extend crossing surface to south by approximately 16 feet to accommodate City's request to connect sidewalks. Install necessary concrete and truncated domes to connect existing sidewalks.
Government Street Crossing	Rehabilitate 57 foot timber crossing surface, replace ties under surface, and five (5) additional ties on each side of timber surface. Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches. Construct one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on east side roadway approach and one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on west side roadway approach. Paint curbs with retro-reflective paint. Install four delineators one on each end of the median curbs. Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and advance warning signs. Install new flashers and crossing gates/arms.
Wisteria Street Crossing	Install flashing lights and crossing gates/arms.
South Boulevard Crossing	Close roadway crossing railroad. Remove 32 foot timber railroad crossing surface. Remove asphalt road approach 29 feet from near rail on east side. Remove asphalt road approach 20 feet from near rail on west side. Reslope ditch line to drain and reseed grass on affected areas. Install metal guard rail with two retro-reflective object and end of road markers for each travel lane.
Myrtle Walk Street Crossing	Adjust vertical curve on roadway approaches. Construct one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on east side roadway approach and one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 100 foot concrete median on west side of roadway approach. Paint curbs with retro-reflective paint. Install four delineators (one on each end of the median curbs). Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and advance warning signs. Install new flashers and crossing gates/arms.
Julia Street Crossing	Close roadway crossing railroad. Remove 32 foot timber railroad crossing surface. Remove asphalt road approaches to railroad right of way or at least 25 feet from near rail. Reslope ditch line to drain, and reseed grass on affected areas. Install metal guard rail with two retro-reflective object and end of road markers for each travel lane.
Terrace Avenue Crossing	Extend crossing surface to the south by 16 feet to accommodate City's request to connect sidewalks. Install necessary concrete and truncated domes to connect existing sidewalks. Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches. Construct one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on east side roadway approach and one (1) 8 inch x 12 inch x 60 foot concrete median on west side roadway approach. Paint curbs with retro-reflective paint. Install four delineators one on each end of the median curbs. Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and advance warning signs. Install new flashers and crossing gates/arms.
Smith Street Crossing	Close roadway crossing railroad. Remove 36 foot timber railroad crossing surface. Remove asphalt road approaches to 20 feet from near rail. Reslope

	ditch line to drain, and reseed grass on affected areas. Install metal guard rail with two retro-reflective object and end of road markers for each travel lane.
Orange Street Crossing	Close roadway crossing railroad. City has project to build road which will maintain connectivity on east side of Orange Street. Remove 30 foot timber railroad crossing surface. Remove asphalt road approaches to 20 feet from near rail. Reslope ditch line to drain, and reseed grass on affected areas. Install metal guard rail with two retro-reflective object and end of road markers for each travel lane. <u>DOTD is working with the City of Baton Rouge to maintain connectivity on the east side of Orange Street. The crossing WILL NOT be closed if a feasible connecting road cannot be provided.</u>
Apple Street Crossing	Close roadway crossing railroad. Build cul-de-sac or "T" on east side to facilitate turn around. Remove 31 foot timber railroad crossing surface. Remove asphalt road approaches to 20 feet from near rail. Reslope ditch line to drain, and reseed grass on affected areas. Install metal guard rail with two retro-reflective object and end of road markers for each travel lane.
Louise Street Crossing	Extend timber crossing surface 16 feet to the south to accommodate the city's request to connect sidewalks. Install necessary concrete and truncated domes to connect existing sidewalks. Adjust vertical curve on the roadway approaches. Install retro-reflective stop bars, railroad pavement markings and advance warning signs. Install new flashers and crossing gates/arms.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this project is to improve safety along the KCS railroad corridor in Baton Rouge by eliminating six (6) crossings and conducting maintenance and rehabilitation on ten (10) crossings.

RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION INFORMATION

A Real Estate representative is here at the meeting to explain DOTD's right of way acquisition procedures.

The DOTD Brochure explaining the Acquisition of Right of Way is available at Station 4.

If you have property affected by this project, we suggest you read the brochure carefully. If you have any questions regarding your individual situation, consult with the agent when he or she meets with you or contact Kiawasha White, Right of Way Region 4 Manager at 225-242-4593.

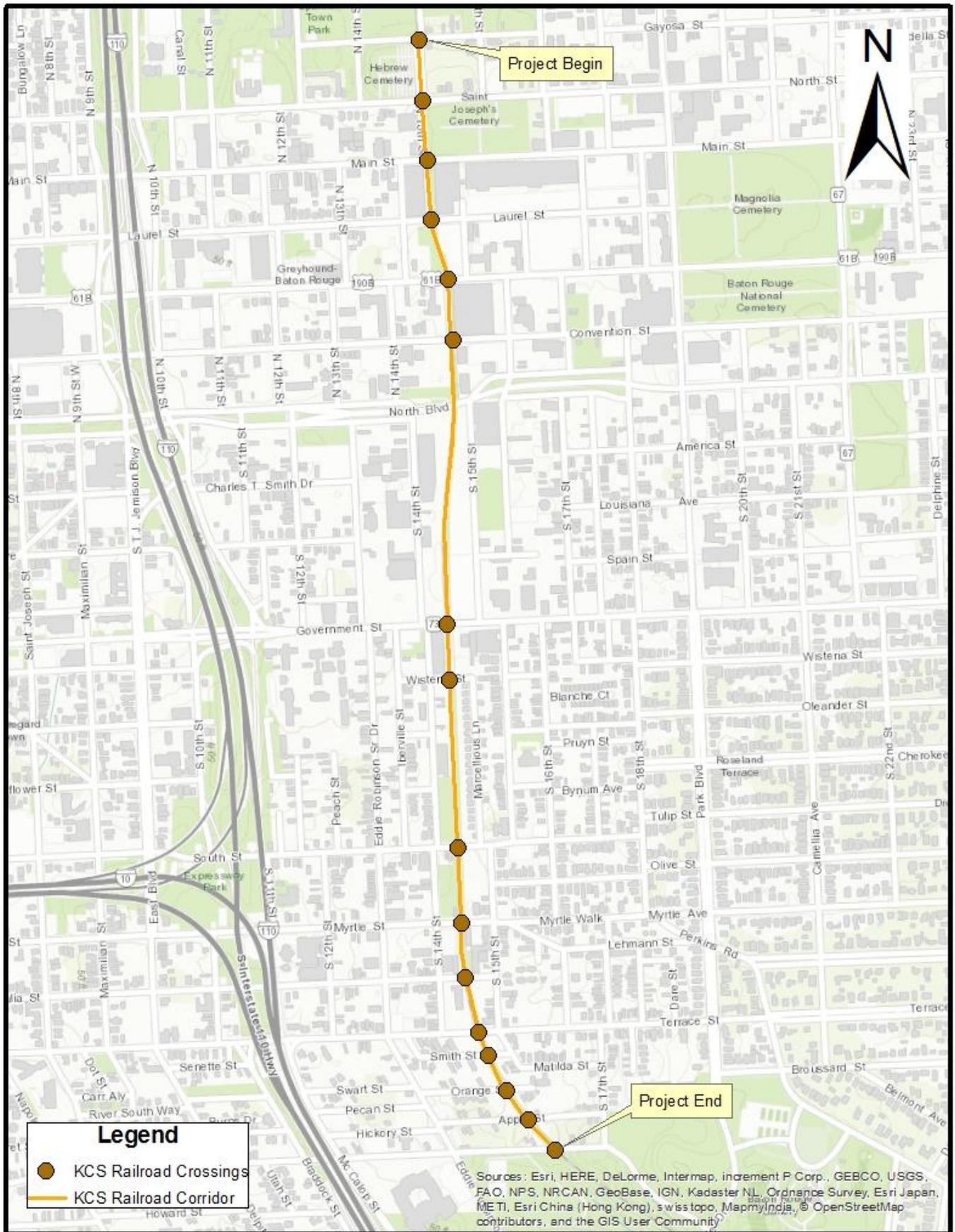


Figure 1: Proposed Project Area

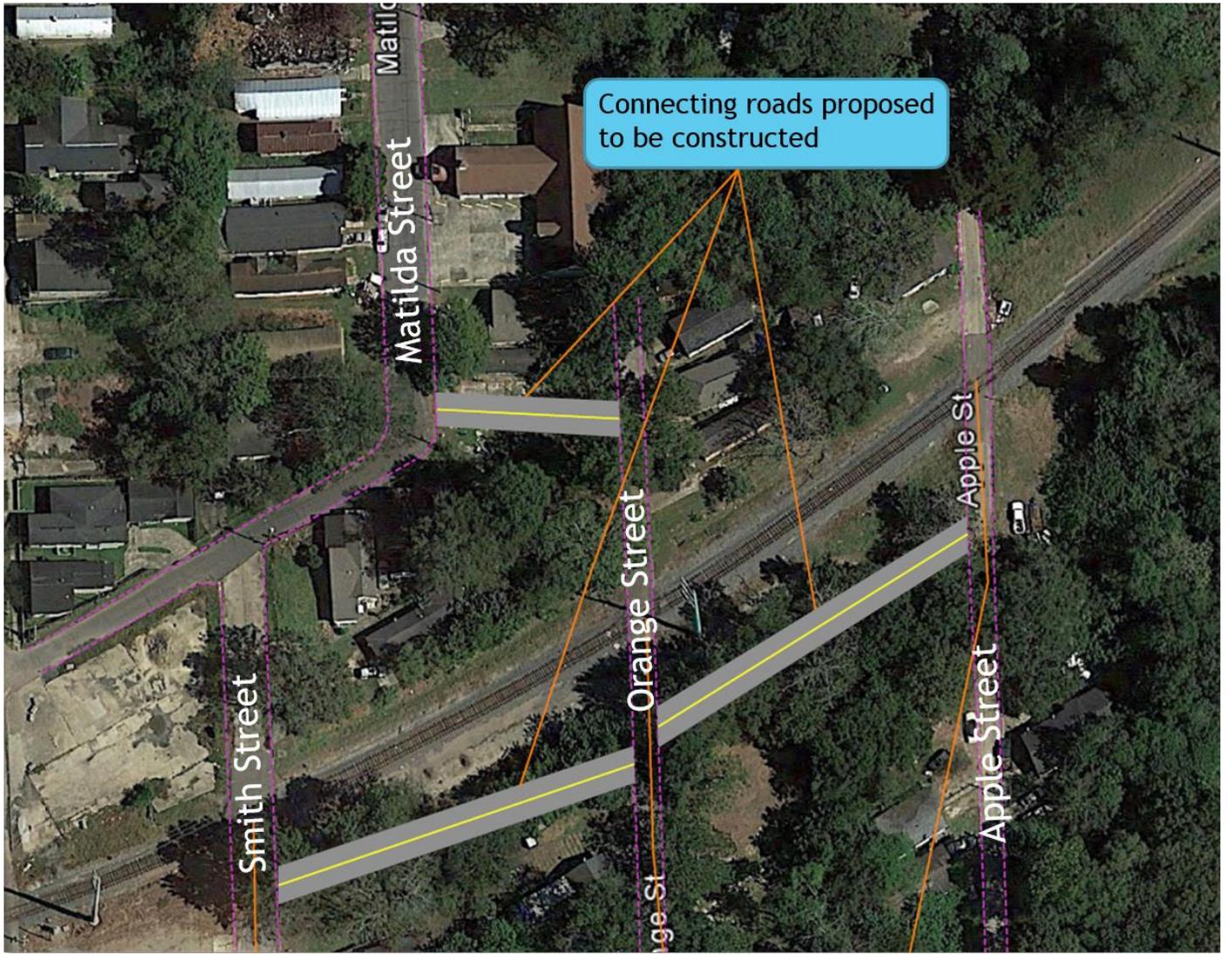


Figure 2. Proposed Connecting Roads

Louisiana Department of Transportation and
Development
Environmental Engineering Administrator, Sec. 28
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

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